Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Tuesday 19 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Wednesday 20 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Monday 18 Dec 2023 at 14:33 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence for a windy and unsettled period with rain and showers at times. High confidence for a windier day on Thursday. Lower confidence for the exact position and track of frontal boundaries from Thursday onwards.

Headline for Tuesday 19 Dec 2023: Scattered wintry showers. Risk of hail and lightning. Very windy with severe wind chill.

Mountain weather hazards on Tuesday 19 Dec 2023

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
60%	70%	80%	50%	50%	50%	80%	80%

Forecast for Tuesday 19 Dec 2023

Weather: Showers across the region, most frequent and heaviest first thing in the morning and early evening. These heavy at times with risk of hail and lightning, and falling as snow above 600m. Strong to gale force westerly winds on summits. Brief dry, sunny intervals between showers.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Less than 20% morning and evening, chances improving to 40% during daylight hours.

Low cloud and visibility: Cloud height variable and fast changing, but seeing broken cloud bases at 600-800m in showers. Poor visibility in showers, but periods of excellent visibility in between.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Forecast for Tuesday 19 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	36/44 W	39/48 SW	44/55 W	45/57 W	49/62 W	44/57 W	43/55 W	45/59 W	43/57 W
900	34/43 W	37/46 SW	42/53 W	42/54 W	46/59 W	42/55 W	40/53 W	43/56 W	41/55 W
600	20/30 W	24/33 SW	28/40 W	28/39 W	30/43 W	28/40 W	26/39 W	28/42 W	27/41 W
300	6/27 W	9/31 SW	11/37 W	11/38 W	13/42 W	13/39 W	12/37 W	13/40 W	13/39 W
Glen	11/23 W	11/24 SW	17/34 W	16/33 W	19/37 W	20/37 W	17/33 W	18/35 W	19/36 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-12	-2/-11
900	-2/-10	-2/-11	-1/-11	-1/-11	-1/-11	-1/-11	-1/-11	-1/-11	-1/-10
600	1/-5	1/-6	1/-6	1/-6	2/-6	1/-6	1/-6	2/-6	2/-5
300	3/1	3/-0	3/-1	4/0	4/-0	4/-0	3/-1	4/-0	4/-0
Glen	6/2	6/2	6/1	6/2	7/2	6/2	6/2	6/2	7/3
Freezing Level*	600m	700m	800m	700m	700m	700m	700m	800m	800m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Combination of strong winds, colder temperatures than the past few days, and frequent snow showers will give a severe wind chill. Making progress will be slow with a risk of being blown over.

Forecast for Wednesday 20 Dec 2023

Weather: A few snow showers in the early hours. A warm front will move east through the morning bringing some rain, briefly preceded by snow on the higher summits. The afternoon will be cloudy and very windy with rain at times, this rain lingering into the evening.

Maximum wind: West 35-40mph, gust 65mph on the highest summits.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Generally less than 10%, but some breaks may develop after dark in the cloud sheet more especially across the east.

Low cloud and visibility: Persistent rain or drizzle combined with widespread cloud bases 300-500m through the day will lead to poor visibilities

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 02 Celsius rising to Plus 09 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 01 Celsius rising to Plus 02 Celsius.
Freezing level: 800m in the morning, rising above the summits later.

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